In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A powered assembly, comprising:

at least one object that can be moved between a first configuration and a second configuration, the object being selected from the group consisting of window coverings, awnings, skylight coverings, curtains and screens;

at least one motor including a rotor and a stator;

at least one actuator, coupled to the motor and the object, to move the object when the motor is energized~~, the motor turning a rotating member~~;

at least one magnet mounted on the stator, juxtaposed with the rotor ~~rotating member~~ and magnetically coupled thereto; and

at least one piezoelectric element that transfers the force of the magnet to output signals when the ~~rotating member~~ rotor rotates, the signals being useful in determining at least one of: a position, and a speed of rotation, of the motor, the magnet magnetically braking the ~~rotating member~~ rotor from turning when the motor is deenergized.

2. (Currently Amended) The powered assembly of Claim 1, wherein the magnet is a first magnet, the piezoelectric element is a first piezoelectric element, and the assembly further comprises a second magnet and a second piezoelectric element interposed between the rotor ~~rotating member~~ and second magnet and oriented in quadrature with the first piezoelectric element.

3. (Original) The powered assembly of Claim 1, wherein the motor is powered by at least on dc battery.

4. (Original) The powered assembly of Claim 1, wherein the object is selected from the group consisting of window coverings, awnings, skylight coverings, curtains and screens.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The powered assembly of Claim 1, wherein the piezoelectric element outputs a variable signal as a function of angular position of the rotor~~rotating member~~.

7. (Currently Amended) A drive assembly for a movable object including a rod, comprising:

an electrically-powered drive structure couplable to the rod to move the object when the drive structure is energized, the drive structure having a motor including a rotor and a stator~~rotating component~~;

at least one braking magnet mounted on the stator and closely spaced from the rotor~~rotating member~~; and

at least one piezoelectric element juxtaposed with the magnet and generating a signal as the rotor ~~rotating member~~ moves past the magnet, the signal being representative at least of a position of the ~~rotating member~~rotor .

8. (Original) The assembly of Claim 7, wherein the drive situation is powered by at least one dc battery.

9. (Original) The assembly of Claim 8, wherein the object is selected from the group consisting of window coverings, awnings, skylight coverings, curtains, and screens.

10. (Currently Amended) The assembly of Claim 7, wherein the magnet is magnetically coupled to the ~~rotating member~~ rotor sufficiently to stop the rotor ~~rotating member~~ from rotating when the drive is structured is deenergized.

11. (Currently Amended) The drive assembly of Claim 7, wherein the magnet is a first magnet, the piezoelectric element is a first piezoelectric element, and the assembly further comprises a second magnet and a second piezoelectric element interposed between the rotor ~~rotating member~~ and second magnet and oriented in quadrature with the first piezoelectric element.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The powered assembly of Clam 7, wherein the piezoelectric element outputs a variable signal as a function of angular position of the rotor~~rotating member~~.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of operating an object that can be moved between a first configuration and a second configuration, the object being selected from the group consisting of window coverings, awnings, skylight coverings, curtains, and screens, the method comprising:

providing a motor including a rotor and a stator~~drive structure~~;

coupling the rotor ~~drive structure~~ to the object such that the object is moved when the rotor ~~drive structure~~ is energized;

mounting at least one magnet on the stator and closely juxtaposing the at least one magnet with the ~~drive structure~~rotor ;

using the magnet to brake the drive structure when the ~~drive structure~~rotor is not energized; and

piezoelectrically generating signals when the ~~drive structure~~rotor rotates past the magnets to determine at least one of: a position of the ~~drive structure~~rotor, and a speed of the ~~drive structure~~rotor.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 14, comprising determining a position of the rotor ~~drive structure~~ at least in part based on a amplitude of a signal from a piezoelectric element.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 14, comprising determining a speed of rotation of the rotor ~~drive structure~~ at least in part based on a frequency of a signal form a piezoelectric element.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 14, comprising providing two piezoelectric elements outputting respective signals and using the signals to determine a direction of rotation of the ~~drive structure~~rotor.

18. (Original) The method of Claim 14, comprising attenuating motor vibrations transmitted to a piezoelectric element.

19. (Original) The method of Claim 14, comprising powering the object solely by means of at least one primary dc battery.